# Neighborhood Watch Newsletter



Volume 17 Issue 5 September - October 2009

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# WESTMINSTER POLICE AT AT

The Westminster Police Department is pleased to announce the addition of a new segment to our website. We now have a section called "Westminster's Most Wanted". The goal is to make select case information available to the public in order to solicit assistance with identification or capture of crime suspects. *The Westminster Police Department needs your help!* Below is a list of suspects that need to be identified and located. For detailed information about the suspect, please visit our website. If you recognize someone, we urge you to contact the investigator for the specific case.

# Westminster Police Department

8200 Westminster Blvd. Westminster, CA 92683 Emergencies Call 911

Business Line: 714-898-3315

Dispatch Ext: 326
Traffic Division Ext. 339
Records Bureau Ext. 371
Business Hours:
Sunday- Saturday
7:00a.m. – 7:00p.m.
Website:

www.westminsterca.gov/depts/police

### Case # 09-06229 (459PC/530.5PC- Burglary / Identity Theft)

On Friday, June 26, 2009 and Saturday, June 27, 2009, an unknown suspect entered a southern California bank and deposited three forged checks valued at over \$6000 into the victim's account. The suspect then made an \$1800 cash withdrawal from the victim's account and fled the bank. (Suspect photo on website)

Any information regarding this suspect should be forwarded to Detective B. MARLOW
Ph. 714-898-3315 ext 439

### **Case # 09-06411** (488PC- Pettyy Theft)

On Monday, July 13, 2009 at 12:30PM, the victim left his cell phone unattended on a table in a fast food restaurant while he ordered food. The suspect grabbed the phone, placed it in his

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pocket, and walked out of the store. (Suspect photo on website)

Any information regarding this suspect should be forwarded to

Detective M. NGUYEN
Ph. 714-898-3315 ext 529

### Case # 09-06969 (664/187PC-Attempted Murder)

On Friday, August 8, 2009, at approximately 5:00PM in the area of 20<sup>th</sup> Street and Jackson Street, the victim was shot in the leg by suspect Vincente Villalobos Rodriguez (also known as Vicente Salazar). If you know the whereabouts of this suspect please contact the Westminster Police Department immediately. (Suspect photo on website)

Any information regarding this suspect should be forwarded to

Detective D. FERRONATO Ph. 714-898-3315 ext 336 Detective K. MACCORMICK Ph. 714-898-3315 ext 340



### Case # 04-10189 (187PC- Murder)

On Wednesday, September 29, 2004, the Westminster Police Department began investigating the homicide of Ariet Girgis. Mrs. Girgis was found nearly decapitated in her home after two suspects invaded her residence. This incident is one of the most brutal homicides the Westminster Police Department has ever seen.

Any information regarding this suspect should be forwarded to

Detective D. FERRONATO
Ph. 714-898-3315 ext 336

## **Become a Volunteer in Policing**

The Volunteers in Policing program is made up of dedicated citizens who have a desire to assist the Police Department in continuing to make Westminster a special and safe place to live and work. The program offers a variety of opportunities in which volunteers can find satisfaction in assisting the police and the citizens of Westminster.

For more information about becoming a Volunteer in Policing and to get an application visit our website <a href="http://www.westminster-ca.gov/depts/police">http://www.westminster-ca.gov/depts/police</a>
or contact the Westminster Police Department Volunteer Coordinators Sergeant Tim Vu and Police Service Officer Ja'Nelle Belton at 714.898.3315.

### Samantha's PRIDE Neighborhood Child Protection Program

In upcoming weeks you may begin to notice people walking through your neighborhood wearing red vests. These are volunteers from the Samantha's PRIDE Program. The PRIDE Program is patterned after the example of a lion's pride whereby all of the adults work together to keep a vigilant watch outside to protect the young from predators. PRIDE Members have taken an oath to work together to model safe parenting behaviors and provide outdoor supervision of children before and after school, at community events and parks.

If you are interested in becoming a part of the PRIDE program, please contact Officer Dave Bridgewaters at 714-898-3315 ext 342 or via email at <a href="mailto:DBridgewaters@Westminster-ca.gov">DBridgewaters@Westminster-ca.gov</a>.

Protection Responsibility Inclusion Dignity Enrichment

### **Neighborhood Watch Meetings**

Effective January 1, 2010, all Neighborhood Watch meetings for groups in the City of Westminster will be conducted via television. Our local channel WTV-3, will air Neighborhood Watch segments the second Monday of the month at 7:30PM. (These segments will be rebroadcast the last Sunday of each month at 5:30PM.)

Did you know that there are over 6,500 households participating in the Neighborhood Watch program in Westminster? By shifting to televised meetings, the Police Department will be able to reach even more homes within the community.

### WE NEED YOUR HELP!

Do you have an issue that needs to be addressed? Now is your chance to submit topics for upcoming television broadcasts. This will allow officers and detectives to provide valuable advice to assist you and thousands of others within the community. Please submit your requests to:

Westminster Police Department New Neighborhood Watch Meetings 8200 Westminster Blvd. Westminster, CA 92683

Be sure to watch the monthly meetings see if your topic was chosen!

### NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH NEWSLETTER



### **Report Suspicious Activity**

"Am I witnessing a crime?" Most of us have found ourselves wondering this at some time or other. However, because we are not really sure, we tend to ignore what we have just seen and hope it wasn't so . . . Here are some guidelines that may help you in deciding if it is a police matter. What is suspicious activity? You are the best judge of what constitutes suspicious activity in your area. Since you know what goes on in your neighborhood on a daily basis better than we do, if you think it's suspicious, it probably is.

The Westminster Police Department cannot combat crime efficiently and effectively without the assistance of concerned citizens. You are the eyes and the ears of the Westminster Police Department; we depend on you to report criminal activity in the community. Citizens report 99% of all crimes.

People often hesitate to call the Police Department for fear of being labeled a nosy neighbor or because they assume that someone else has already called. It has been observed that in neighborhoods where the number of suspicious activity calls increased, crimes such as burglaries have decreased. This is a direct result of the participation of concerned neighbors.

The Westminster Police Department encourages citizens to report suspicious activity. Suspicious activity can be any person, act, event, vehicle or situation that appears questionable. ALWAYS TRUST YOUR INSTINCT!! If it "just doesn't seem right to you," that is when you should call the Westminster Police Department.

If you see suspicious activity or need to report a crime, call (714) 898-3315 ext 326 or 911 for emergencies.



# School Year Parking Reminder

The 2009/2010-school year is upon us once again and the traffic congestion around our schools becomes a serious problem. Let's be courteous to other drivers, as well as area residents, when dropping off children at school. Do not double park your vehicle; utilize select drop off / pick up areas designated by the school for the safety of your children, and then move your vehicle as quickly as possible in a safe manner. This allows the next parent to drop off their children and keeps the traffic flowing. Never leave your vehicle parked unattended in the restricted zones that surround our schools. Keep your eyes and ears open around school zones, especially in proximity to school buses. When a school bus is stopped with red lights flashing and/or a stop sign out, never make an attempt to go around the bus. Let's keep the children safe and have a great back to school fall season.

### Founder's Day Parade and Festival

Founder's Day Parade and Festival will take place on October 23<sup>rd</sup>, 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup>. The festivities will be moving to Sigler Park this year, so don't miss any of the excitement as we remember the founding fathers who helped establish the town we know as Westminster. The fun begins on Friday evening with the carnival kick-off and the very popular "Battle of the Bands" on the main stage. Saturday morning will be the Founder's Day Parade which will include marching bands, local service clubs, scout groups, and classic cars. Other events to heighten your weekend fun will include the Little Westminster Dog Show, food and craft booths, entertainment, carnival rides and attraction, and some special surprises.

### City of Westminster Department Directory

Animal Control: 714-898-3315 Ext. 365

Chamber of Commerce: 714-898-9648

City Hall: 714-898-3311

Code Enforcement: 714-893-3311

Consumer Affairs: 714-952-5210

Fair Housing Department: 714-569-0823

Family Resource Center: 714-903-1331

Graffiti Hotline: 714-895-2876

Health Department: 714-677-3600

West Justice Center: 714-896-7111

Recruitment: 714-898-3315 Ext. 395

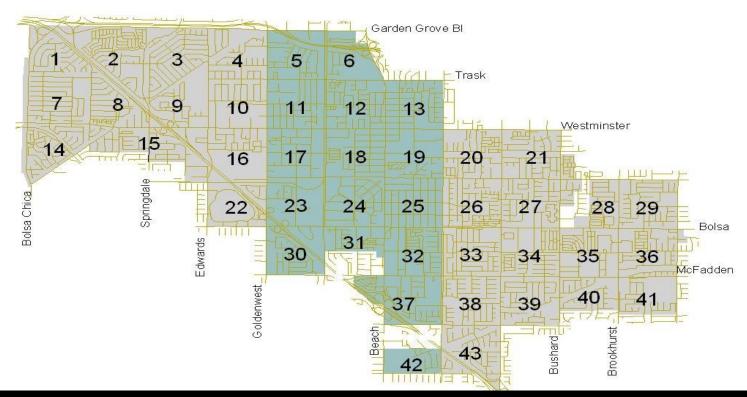
Westminster Senior Center: 714-895-2878

Vector Control: 714-971-2421

### **REMINDER:**

All issues of the
Neighborhood Watch
Newsletter are
available online at:
<a href="http://www.westminster-ca.gov/depts/police/community">http://www.westminster-ca.gov/depts/police/community</a>

### NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH NEWSLETTER



### BETWEEN JULY AND AUGUST, THERE WAS A 63% DECREASE IN RESIDENTIAL BURGLARIES!

| RESIDENTIAL BURGLARIES |      |     |     |              |                  |      |     |     |              |                  |      |     |     |              |
|------------------------|------|-----|-----|--------------|------------------|------|-----|-----|--------------|------------------|------|-----|-----|--------------|
| A<br>R<br>E<br>A       | JULY | AUG | YTD | LAST<br>YEAR | A<br>R<br>E<br>A | JULY | AUG | YTD | LAST<br>YEAR | A<br>R<br>E<br>A | JULY | AUG | YTD | LAST<br>YEAR |
| 1                      | 0    | 0   | 1   | 3            | 16               | 0    | 0   | 2   | 2            | 31               | 0    | 0   | 0   | 2            |
| 2                      | 1    | 2   | 9   | 4            | 17               | 1    | 0   | 2   | 4            | 32               | 0    | 1   | 1   | 2            |
| 3                      | 0    | 2   | 7   | 5            | 18               | 3    | 1   | 9   | 2            | 33               | 2    | 0   | 7   | 9            |
| 4                      | 1    | 2   | 3   | 3            | 19               | 0    | 0   | 0   | 5            | 34               | 1    | 0   | 4   | 8            |
| 5                      | 0    | 0   | 0   | 8            | 20               | 5    | 0   | 11  | 17           | 35               | 2    | 0   | 6   | 6            |
| 6                      | 0    | 0   | 0   | 4            | 21               | 1    | 1   | 6   | 20           | 36               | 1    | 1   | 8   | 8            |
| 7                      | 2    | 0   | 6   | 4            | 22               | 0    | 0   | 0   | 0            | 37               | 2    | 0   | 3   | 1            |
| 8                      | 2    | 0   | 6   | 3            | 23               | 0    | 0   | 0   | 0            | 38               | 1    | 0   | 1   | 7            |
| 9                      | 0    | 0   | 2   | 5            | 24               | 0    | 0   | 0   | 0            | 39               | 1    | 1   | 7   | 2            |
| 10                     | 0    | 0   | 4   | 8            | 25               | 0    | 0   | 0   | 0            | 40               | 1    | 1   | 4   | 2            |
| 11                     | 2    | 0   | 4   | 4            | 26               | 4    | 0   | 6   | 6            | 41               | 0    | 0   | 2   | 3            |
| 12                     | 0    | 0   | 3   | 3            | 27               | 1    | 0   | 3   | 9            | 42               | 0    | 0   | 0   | 0            |
| 13                     | 0    | 0   | 3   | 4            | 28               | 0    | 0   | 4   | 10           | 43               | 0    | 0   | 4   | 5            |
| 14                     | 1    | 0   | 6   | 4            | 29               | 0    | 0   | 4   | 4            |                  |      |     |     |              |
| 15                     | 1    | 1   | 5   | 9            | 30               | 0    | 0   | 4   | 2            |                  |      |     |     |              |

|                     | JULY | AUG | YTD |
|---------------------|------|-----|-----|
| TOTAL<br>BURGLARIES | 36   | 13  | 161 |

This newsletter is published bimonthly. It is compiled and edited by Ja'Nelle Belton, WPD Police Service Officer- Community Relations.